

What is a Great Marriage?

We all long for a great marriage with a dynamic loving relationship. Before we married, we dreamed of sharing the memorable moments of life with our best friend and having a partner to journey through the difficult times with side by side.

Wives long for deep loving intimacy as they share their personal interests and build strong relationships connecting them with their husbands. In a great marriage a wife knows her husband is constantly trying to show his love for his wife with romantic gestures and words throughout the day

Husbands long to know that their efforts are valued and appreciated. Men have a God given need to go out from themselves and make a mark on the world and at the end of the day know that their wives honor and respect them.

A great marriage creates a lifetime of love, a love that is deeper and stronger every year of our life. These are the desires of our heart.



How Do You Create a Great Marriage?

The bad news is that great marriages don't just happen. Great marriages are created by husbands and wives that value an exceptional relationship and are willing to put in the effort and energy to make them happen.

If there is a formula for a great marriage, it would look something like this:

- Learn from others that have great marriages what they do
- Learn God's plan for marriage and love
- Develop practical relationship skills like communication, conflict resolution and meeting each other's needs
- Associate with other couples who are working to build a great marriage
- Put it all into practice on a daily basis

The Covenant of Love marriage ministry helps couples do all of this. Couples meet on a monthly basis for enrichment, fellowship and prayer.

The Beauty of a Great Marriage

Great marriages are like strong trees that withstand the storms of nature and flourish to become great symbols of God's loving plan for us.

A strong foundation based on God's plan for marriage and practical relationship skills are like a strong root system that nourishes and supports the tree. The marriage group provides opportunities to both learn God's plan and discuss with other couples how to implement that plan on a day to day basis.

Trees become stronger and withstand harsher conditions when they are near other trees that can buffer them and support them. The same is true for us. Alone, we can become vulnerable, but a strong support system not only protects us but also helps us flourish.

Mature trees bear beautiful fruit giving witness to the dignity of the tree. Mature and healthy marriages bear witness to the beauty of the Sacrament of Marriage and become a true sign to everyone of God's love.



A Message from Fr Kirby

"I encourage all married couples in our parish to participate in the Covenant of Love marriage enrichment "Date Nights.". The future of our parish and church depends upon the strength of our families and the example of Christian husbands and wives. Let Covenant of Love help you strengthen your marriage and your relationship with our Lord."

-Fr. Kirby
Pastor Santa Cruz Parish

A Message from Fr Charlie

"We all have heard the expression an apple a day keeps the doctor away. I like to tell couples a date night a month keeps the divorce lawyer away. If couples do not take time for themselves and to have fun together, marriage can turn from a joy to a burden. Please keep joy in your marriage and let Covenant of Love help."

-Fr. Charlie
Associate Pastor Santa Cruz Parish

What Participants Are Saying

We have been so blessed to be able to partake of this ministry! We have learned practical applications to work on a better relationship and have been humbled by the testimonies of love and sacrifice that other couples have shared at Covenant of Love. Where else can we get together with other couples of our faith to talk about the everyday issues we all face in marriage and family and receive God-guided answers...

- Luis and Elsa

Upcoming Date Nights (2nd Friday of the Month)

Aug 10
Sept 8 (Marriage Retreat)
Oct 12
Nov 9
Dec 21 (3rd Friday)

"Date nights" are free and take place in Deane Hall from 7-9 pm.
Childcare is also FREE.

There is a Covenant of Love prayer ministry (8 couples in the parish) who are praying for your marriage every day.

Call Jimmy & Joanna Mancini (lead couple) at 569-6963 for special prayer requests or for information about Covenant of Love or marriage coaching.

The Covenant of Love Marriage Ministry is a creation of The Alexander House Apostolate. The Alexander House seeks to build Christ-centered marriages through the teachings of John Paul II and the Catholic Church. The Alexander House has successfully coached over one thousand couples in their marriages.

You can learn more about The Alexander House Apostolate at www.thealexanderhouse.org



Building Great Marriages at Santa Cruz Catholic Church

